

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully considered this Application in connection with the Examiner's Action, and respectfully request reconsideration of this Application in view of the above Amendment and the following remarks.

Pending in the application are Claims 1 – 4, 7 – 9, 12 – 14, and 16 – 18.

I. Claim Objections

Claims 15 stands objected to for being a multiple dependent claim dependent on another multiple dependent claim. Applicant has cancelled Claim 15 and added new Claims 16 – 18 in its place. Each of these new claims corresponds to the subject matter of cancelled Claim 15, except that each claim is now dependent upon separate individual claims. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that this objection be withdrawn.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 11 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Harris (WO 95/19974) in view of Aldrich (page 811, 1999). Applicant has cancelled Claim 11 and respectfully requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

III. Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that, in light of the foregoing Amendment and comments, Claims 1 – 4, 7 – 9, 12 – 14, and 16 – 18 are in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is therefore requested.

Attorney Docket No.:
TOMK-0001 (122359.00003)

PATENT

If the Examiner has any other matters which pertain to this Application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve these matters by Examiner's Amendment where possible.

Respectfully submitted,

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